Report on Bill 9–2003
Auditor General Act

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The Honourable Claude Richmond
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly
Province of British Columbia
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, British Columbia
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Sir:

I have the honour to transmit herewith to the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia my Report on Bill 9–2003, Auditor General Act, in which I set out matters I believe will be of interest to members of the Legislative Assembly.

Wayne Strelioff

Wayne K. Strelioff, CA
Auditor General

Victoria, British Columbia
February 2003

copy: Mr. E. George MacMinn, Q.C.
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

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Members of the Legislative Assembly
Province of British Columbia
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Dear Members,

On February 24th, 2003, the Government introduced Bill 9–2003, Auditor General Act in the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia. If the bill is enacted, it will repeal and replace the current Auditor General Act and make consequential amendments to several other acts.

As the Auditor General, I am interested in all proposed legislation that has an impact on my office. Naturally, I am particularly concerned with any changes to the Auditor General Act. As an officer of the Legislature, I believe I have a responsibility to advise all members of the Legislative Assembly about the impact that new legislation will have on my ability to serve them.

I am providing this report to advise members of the Legislative Assembly that I, as the Auditor General, support the provisions contained in Bill 9–2003, Auditor General Act. It provides members with the opportunity to carry out a more rigorous and objective scrutiny of the performance of government.

The bill includes provisions that:

- define the specific audit responsibilities of the Auditor General;
- set out the role of the Auditor General with respect to auditors of government organizations that are not audited by the Auditor General;
- support the independence of the Auditor General;
- describe the roles of committees of the Legislative Assembly for overseeing the work of the Auditor General;

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- require the Auditor General to meet reasonable accountability standards; and
- provide an efficient method for reappointment of an incumbent Auditor General.

My predecessor and I, over the past few years, have presented to members of the Legislative Assembly proposals to update the Auditor General Act. We have consulted on these proposals with members of the Legislative Assembly, government representatives, and advisors from the public sector, business and academia.

The Government bill, although different in approach in some areas, is consistent with the principles underlying our proposals.

I am pleased to be able to support the proposed Auditor General Act.

Yours sincerely,

Wayne Strelioff

Wayne K. Strelioff, CA
Auditor General

Victoria, British Columbia
February 2003

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